

severe and prolonged than usual. The contents of the medicine chest were now in constant demand; fever, rheumatism, headaches due to rarefaction of the air, were common, and when we reached Baba Hatun, I was so weak that, having left the camp to search for water, I was unable to walk back. The natives of Sin-Chiang who accompanied me were accustomed to live at an altitude of not less than about 4,000 feet, yet, owing to our high elevation, several of them suffered frequently from headaches and constipation, and they could not keep up with the slow-going caravan, while I, accustomed to live but little above the level of the sea, was never seriously affected except that I breathed more rapidly.

At Baba Hatun we found Islam and Ipay, who had, with the two camels, been waiting for us for several days. They had experienced severe weather, one of the camels having become so thin that it would have been useless to take him further. This animal I gave to the Kara Sai men who had brought me about 500 lbs. of corn, besides barley meal, and I supplied them with enough Indian corn meal for the camel till they should reach their home. Near Kara Sai there would be plenty of excellent feeding for him, and probably they would be able to sell him in good condition for a high price in the autumn.

The weather for some days was threatening, and by the time we reached Togral Monpo (Camp 111) it had become much worse. When close to the pass we had to abandon thirteen sheep, and we had barely pitched our camp when we were overtaken by a blinding snowstorm which continued all night, and, in a milder way, during the next forenoon. Such a storm speedily scatters a caravan, driving the hungry animals far and wide in search of shelter. After the tents were set up, the caravan men, cold and wet, huddled together within